DESCRIPTION

POWER STEERING DEVICE AND METHOD OF CONTROLLING THE POWER STEERING DEVICE

TECHNICAL FIELD 5

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[0001] The present invention relates to a power steering device (a power steering system) enabling steering assist force application by operating a hydraulic power cylinder responsively to the magnitude of steering torque, which torque is output from a steering mechanism of an automotive vehicle, and specifically to a control method of the power steering system.

BACKGROUND ART

[0002] A power steering system disclosed in the following patent publication designated by "Document 1" is generally 15 known as this type of power steering system. [0003] The power steering system disclosed in this document is comprised of a steering shaft mounting thereon a steering wheel, an output shaft linked to the lower end of the steering shaft, a rack-and-pinion mechanism installed on the 20 lower end of the output shaft for steering of steered road wheels, a hydraulic power cylinder linked to the rack of the rack-and-pinion mechanism, and a reversible pump provided to selectively supplying working fluid into the first hydraulic chamber arranged as the left-hand half of the power cylinder 25 or into the second hydraulic chamber arranged as the righthand half of the power cylinder. The first hydraulic chamber is connected via a first fluid passage to the pump outlet, whereas the second hydraulic chamber is connected via a second fluid passage to the pump outlet. Also 30 provided is an electromagnetic valve disposed in a communication passage interconnecting the first and second

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Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-12 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record does not teach memory means and selecting means for accessing the memory means, on a plasma torch control, in combination with calculation means for calculating consumption of a plurality of torch components with each component comprising at least a nozzle and electrode element.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark H Paschall whose telephone number is 703 308-1642. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am - 3pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robin Evans can be reached on (703) 305-5766. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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> Mark H Paschall **Primary Examiner** Art Unit 3742

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